

# Heavy and Superheavy Neutron Rich Nuclei

- Upper part of the nuclear map: Pessimistic view
- Fusion reactions: What else can they give us?
- Transfer reactions: How far can we go?
- n-capture processes: Back to old methods?
- Summary

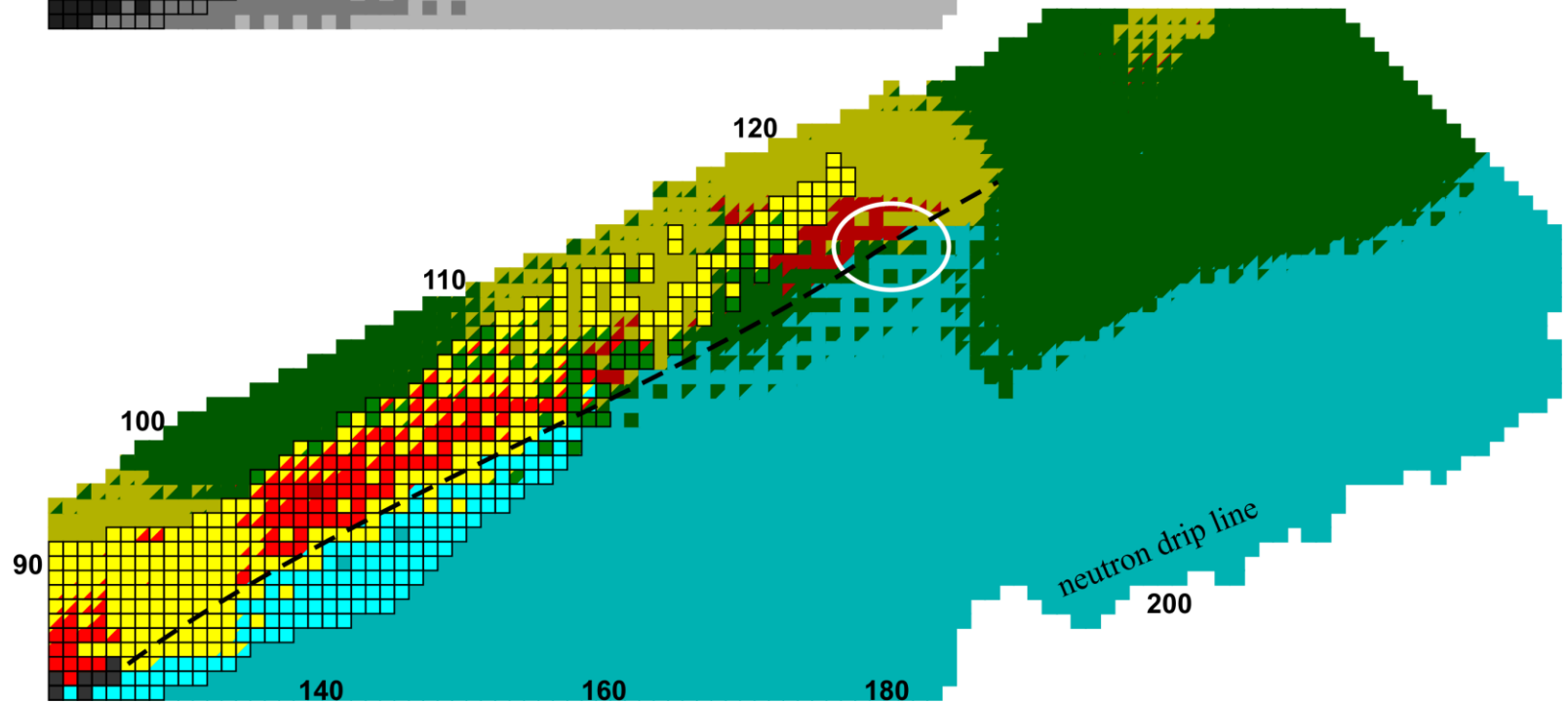
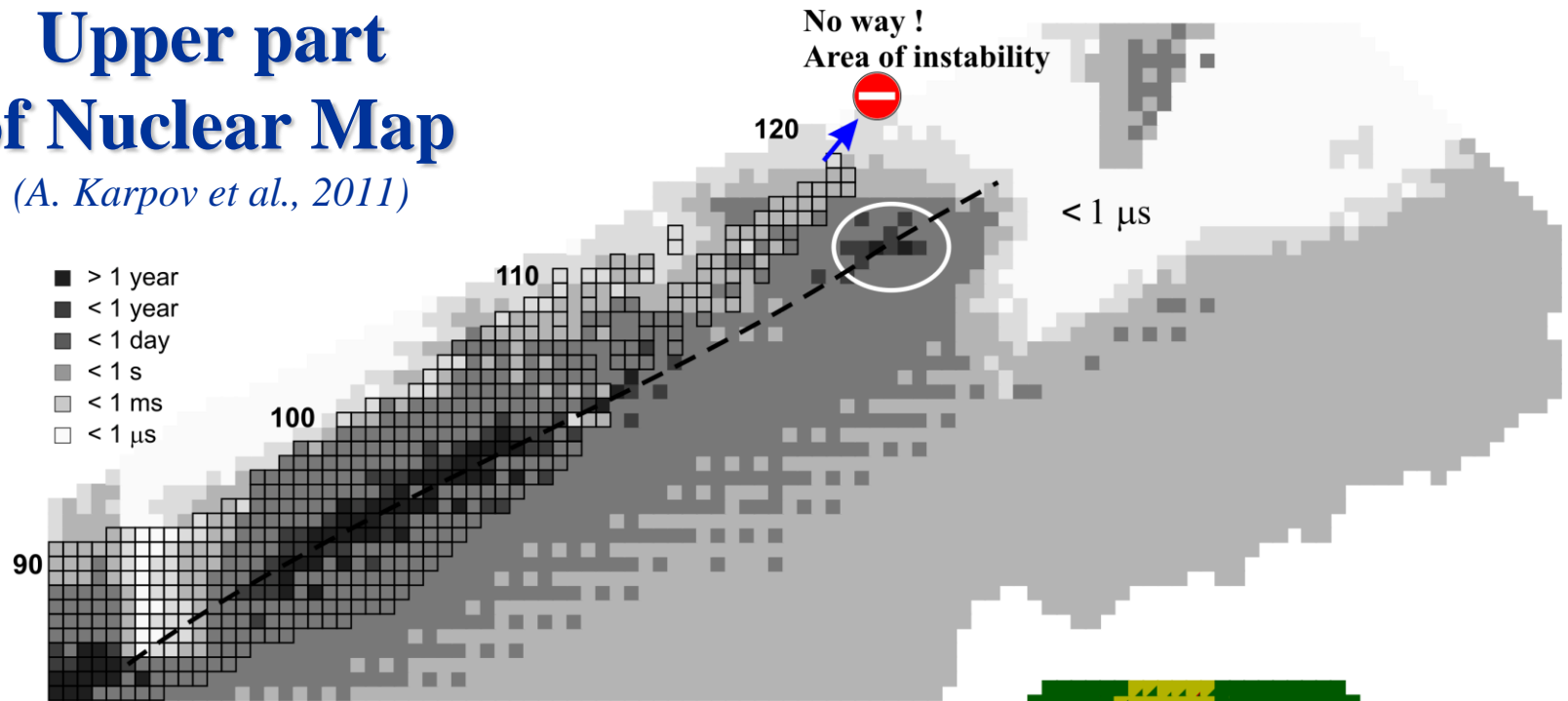
**Valeriy Zagrebaev**

*Flerov Laboratory of Nuclear Reactions*

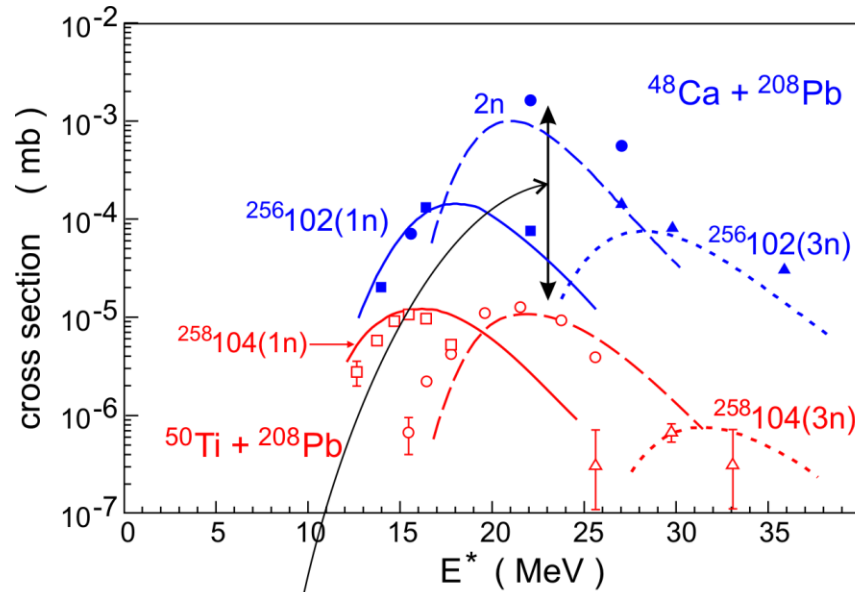
for TAN-2011, September 09, 2011, Sochi

# Upper part of Nuclear Map

(A. Karpov et al., 2011)

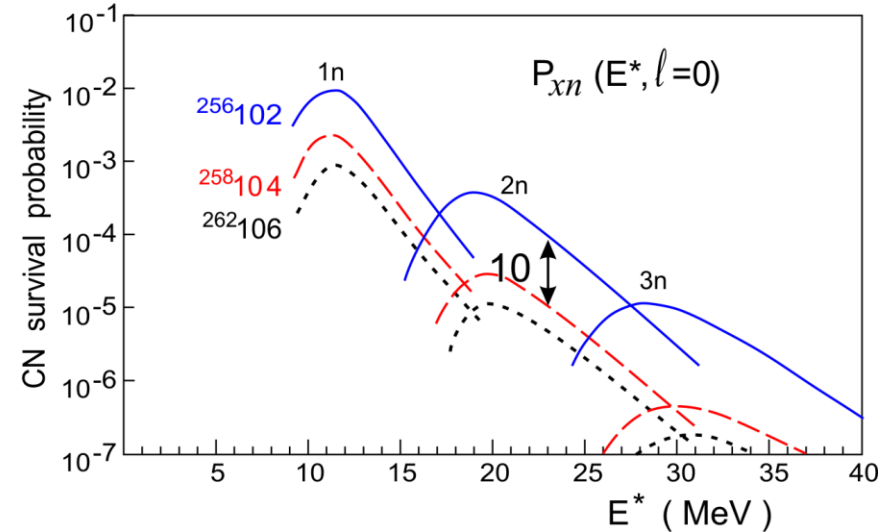
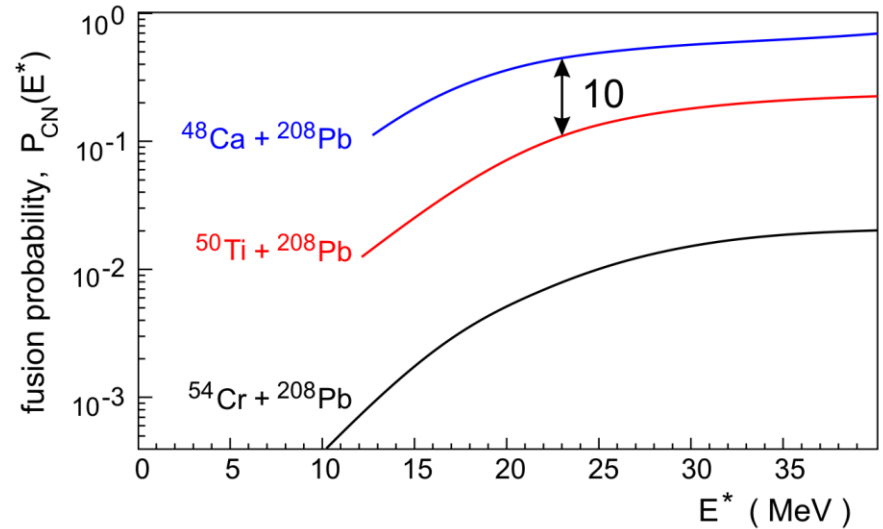


# Epoch of $^{48}\text{Ca}$ is almost over. How much is $^{50}\text{Ti}$ worse?



$$\frac{\sigma(^{50}\text{Ti})}{\sigma(^{48}\text{Ca})} = \frac{1}{100}$$

	$B_{LD}$	$\delta W$	$B_f$	$E_n$
$^{256}_{102}$	1.26	4.48	5.7	7.1
$^{258}_{104}$	0.77	4.49	5.3	7.6



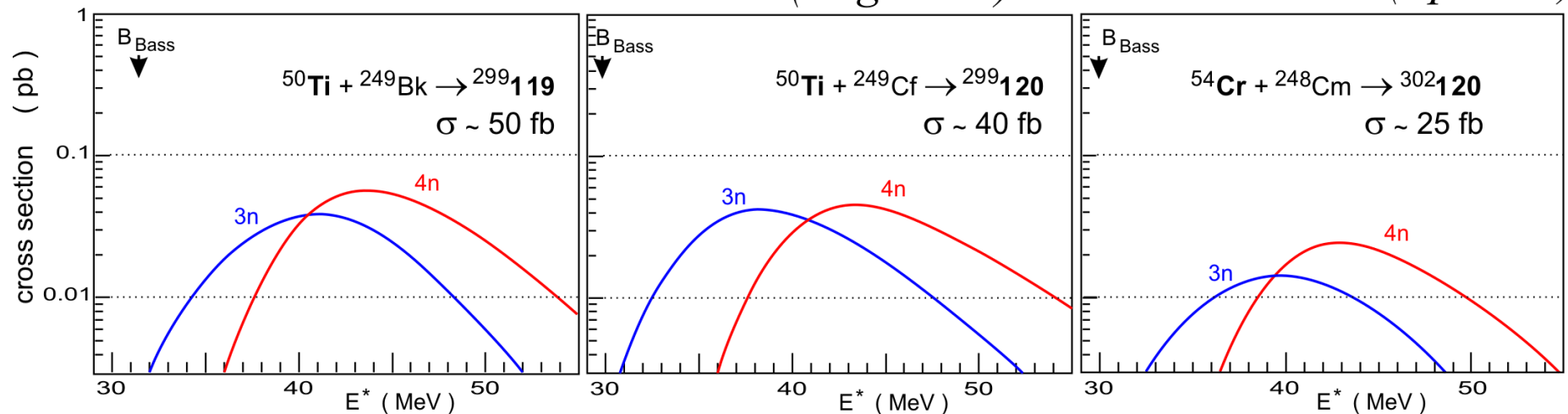
# Beyond $^{48}\text{Ca}$ : $^{50}\text{Ti}$ and $^{54}\text{Cr}$ induced fusion reactions

Ti beam:

*started  
at TASCA (August 19)*

Cr beam:

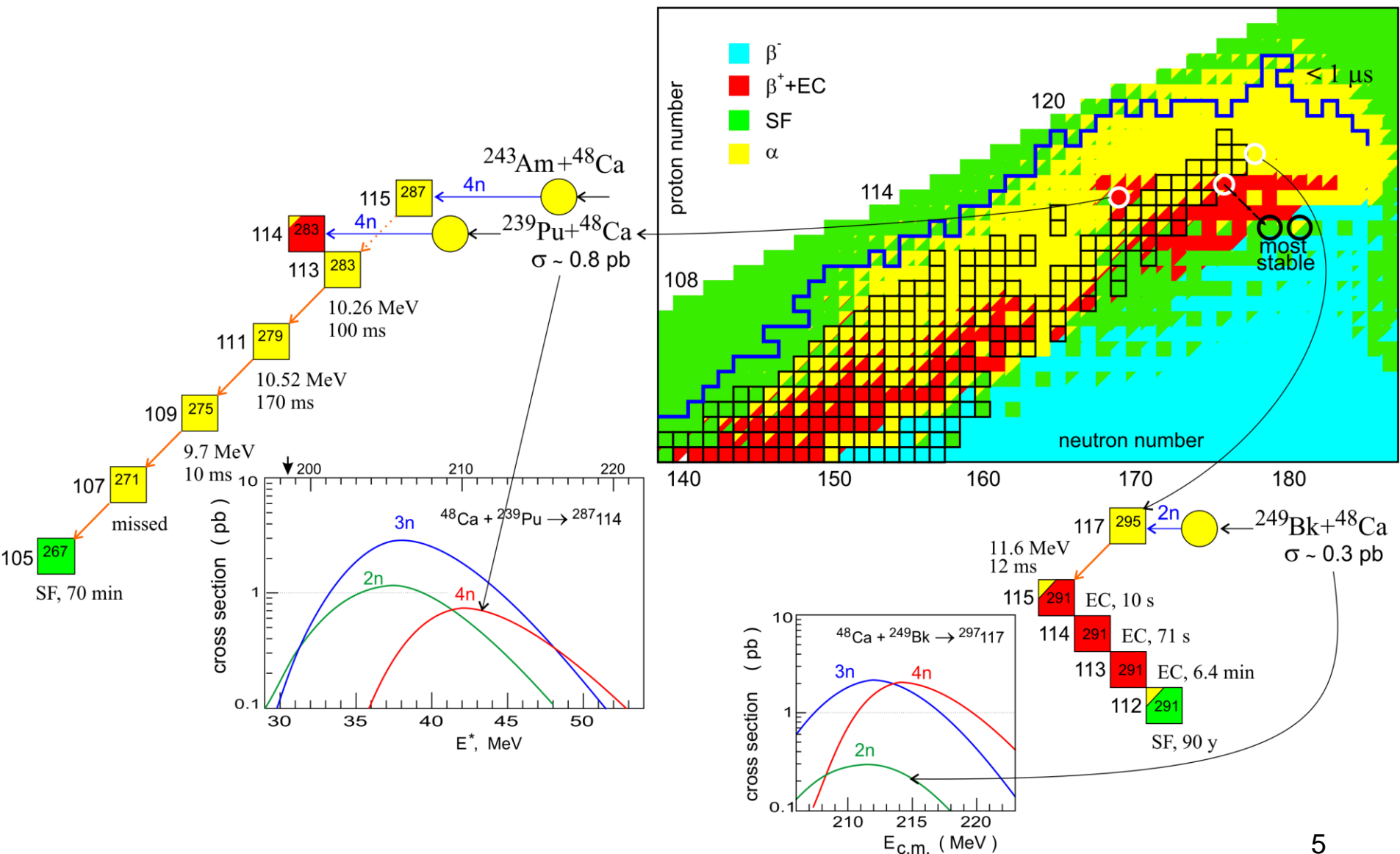
*started at SHIP (April 23)*



factor  $\frac{1}{20}$  as compared to  $^{48}\text{Ca}$

*Perhaps, these elements are the last ones  
which will be synthesized in nearest future !?*

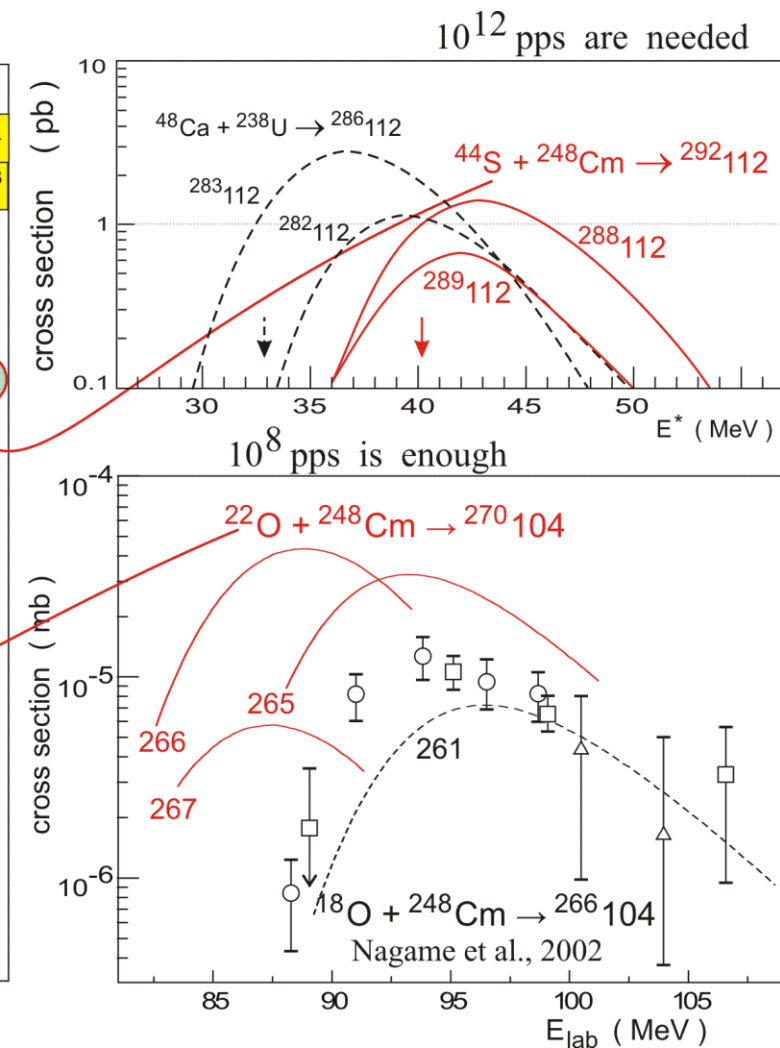
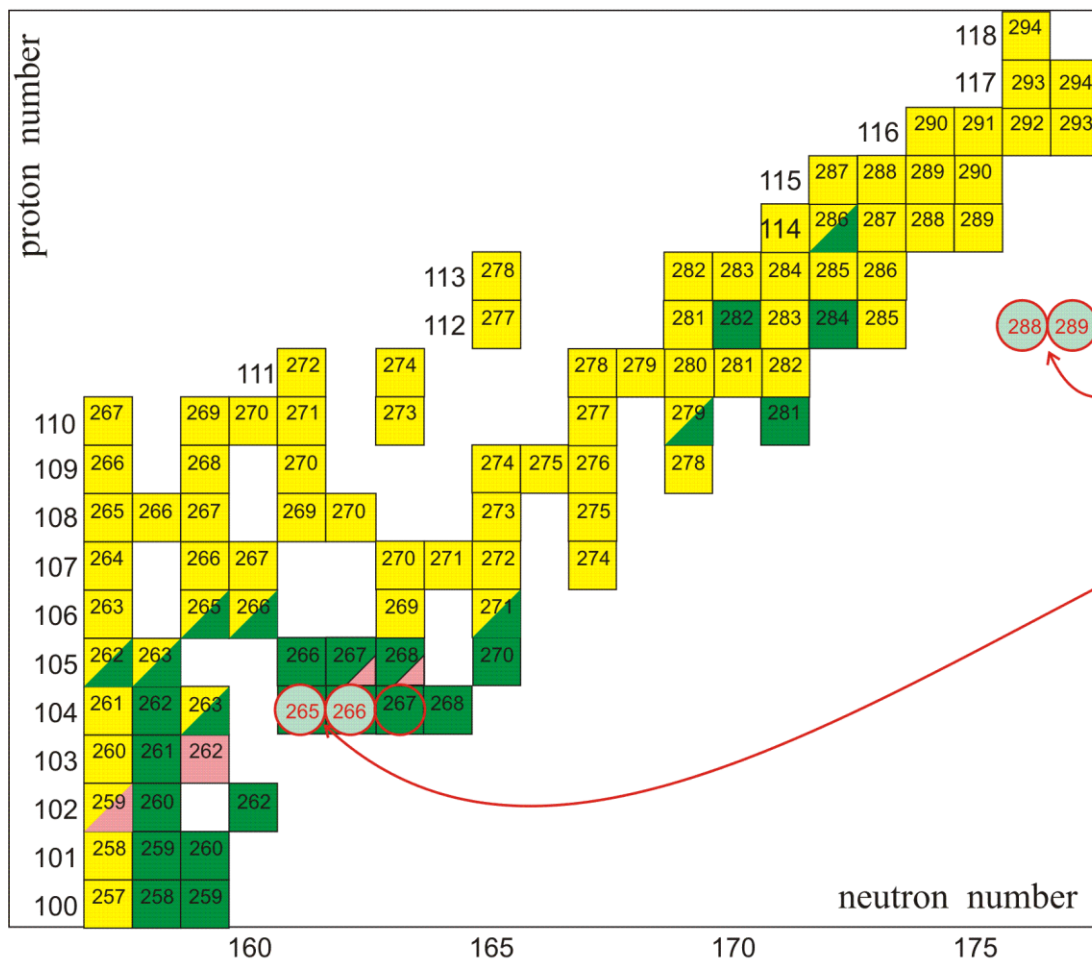
# Narrow pathway to the island of stability



# How can we synthesize heavy neutron rich nuclei ?

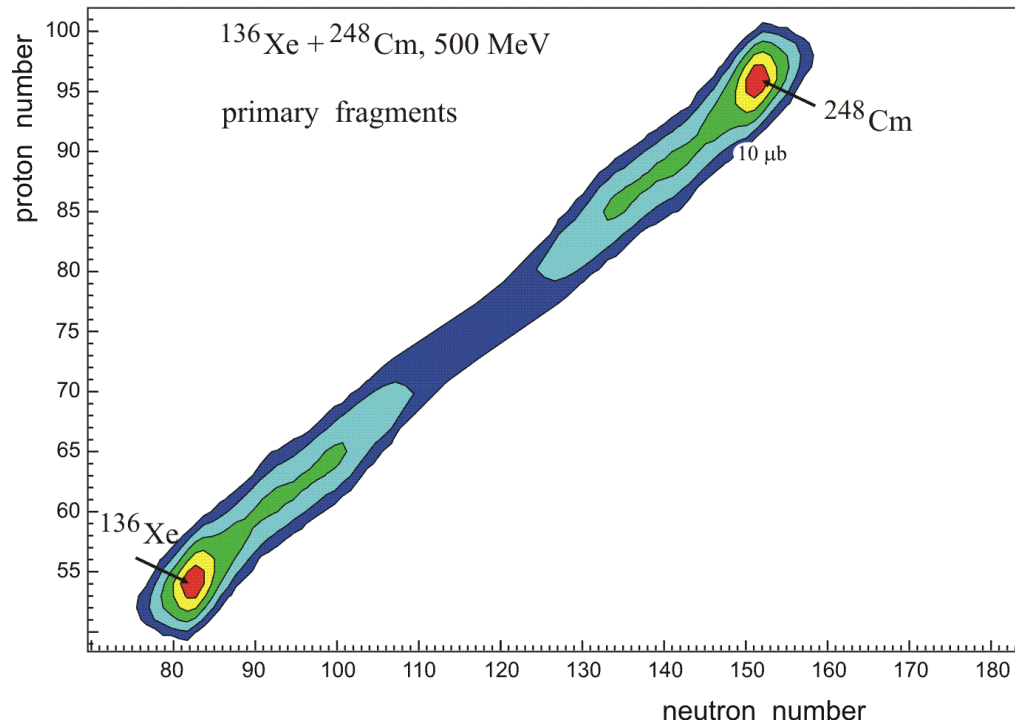
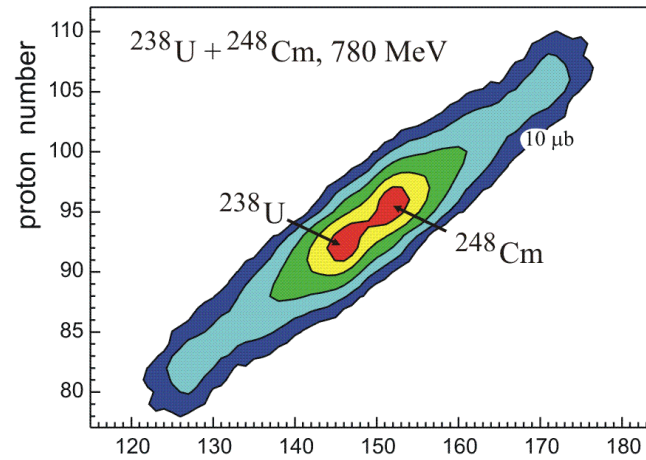
1. Fusion reactions with radioactive beams  
(e.g.,  $^{54}\text{Ca} + ^{248}\text{Cm}$ , ...)
2. Multi-nucleon transfer reactions
3. Neutron capture processes

# Use of low-energy Radioactive Ion Beams for production of neutron rich superheavy nuclei ?



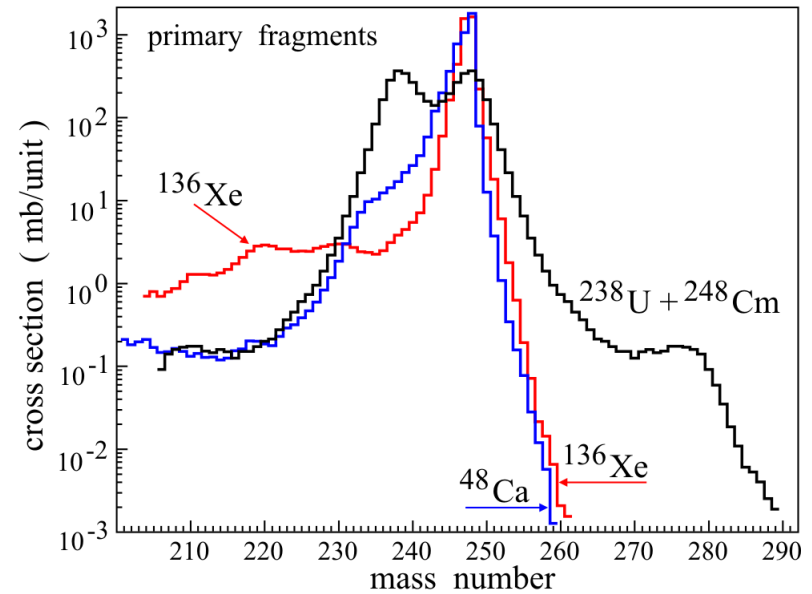
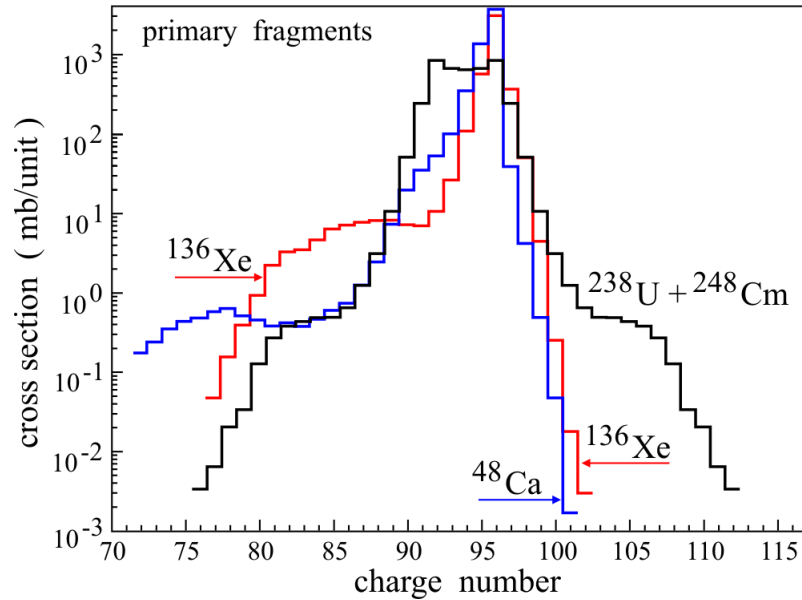
No chances today. But in future ?

# Multi-nucleon transfer: choice of reaction is very important

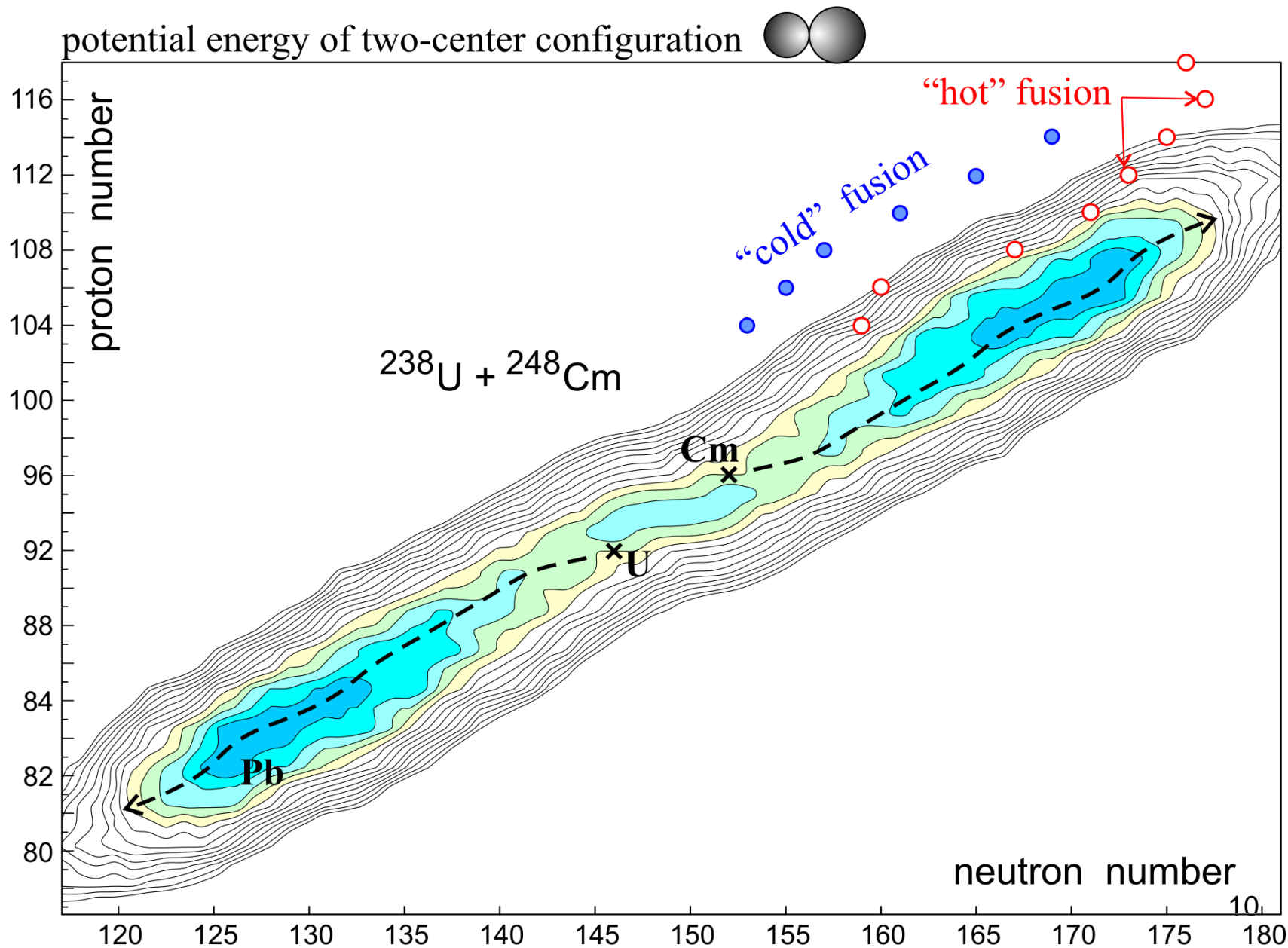




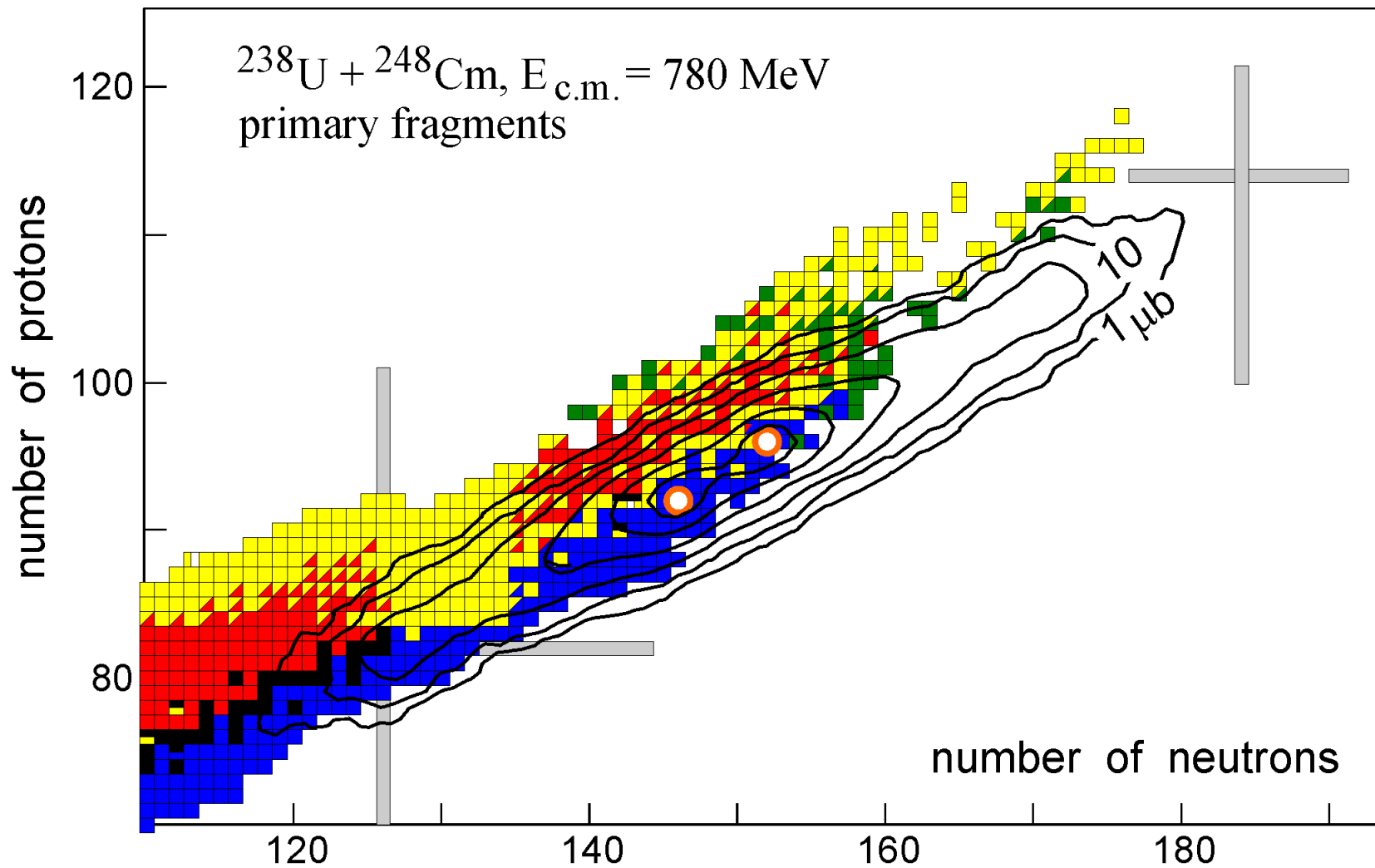
# Only U-like beams give us a chance to produce neutron rich SH nuclei in transfer reactions



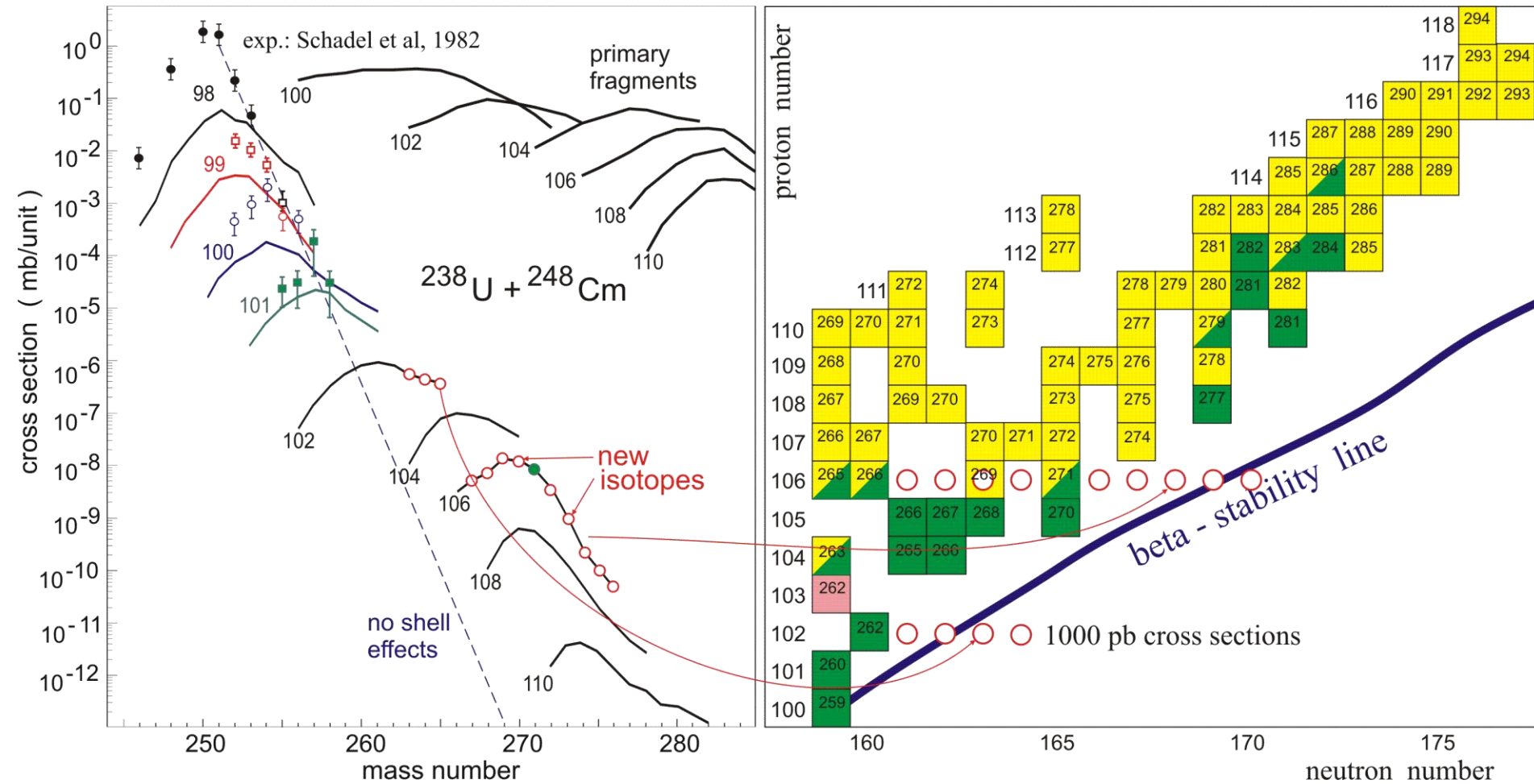
# Anti-symmetrising driving potential of the giant nuclear system



## $^{238}\text{U} + ^{248}\text{Cm}$ . Primary fragments

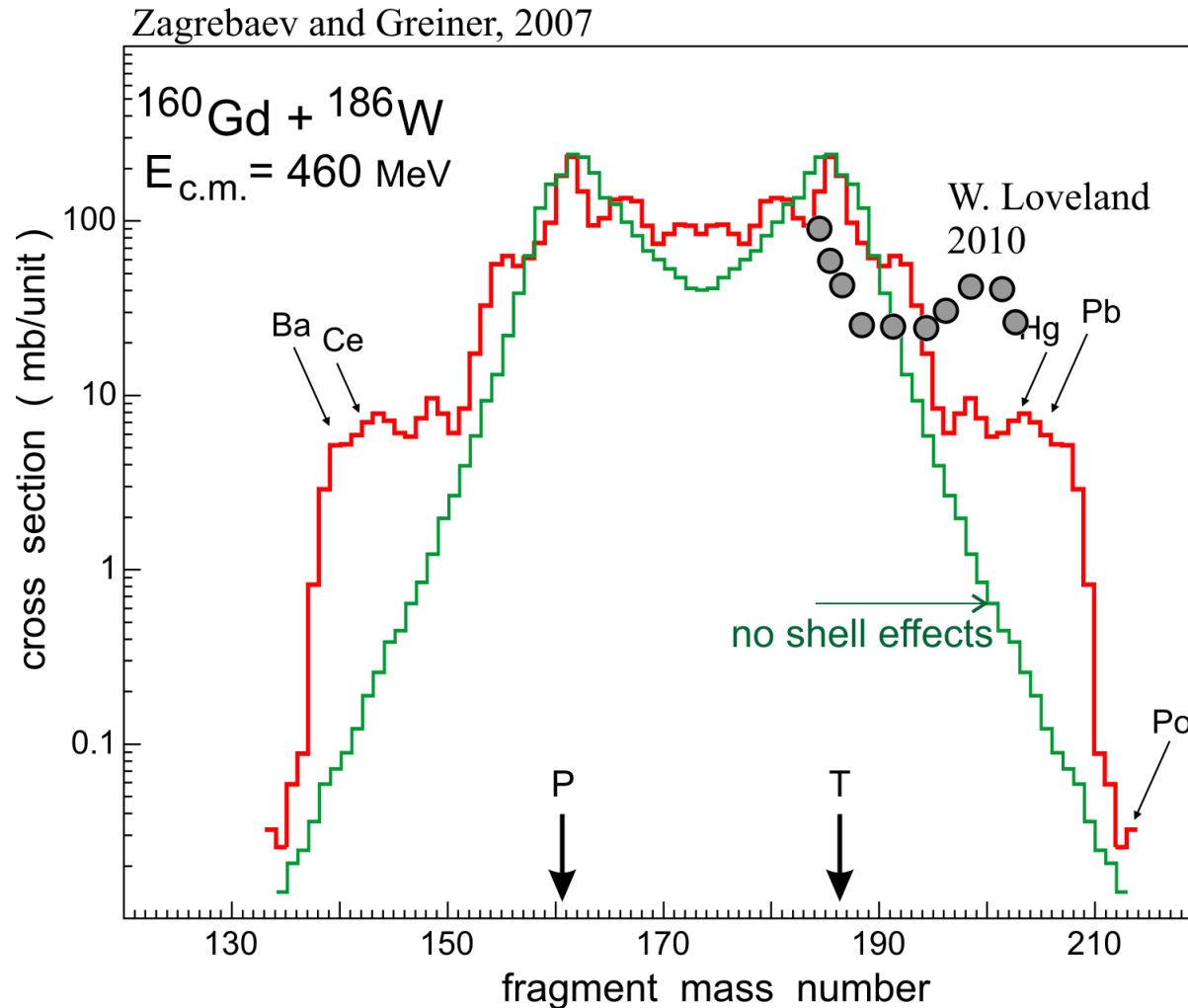


# Study of transfermium nuclei along the line of stability becomes possible at last

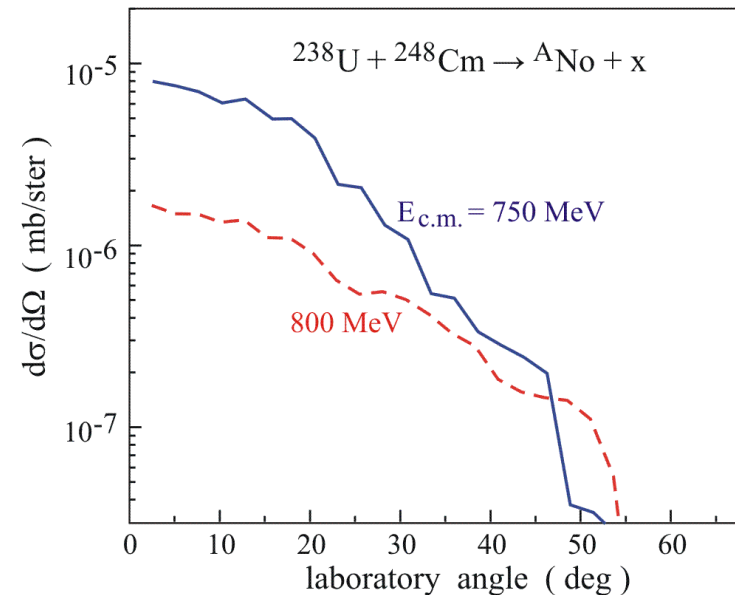
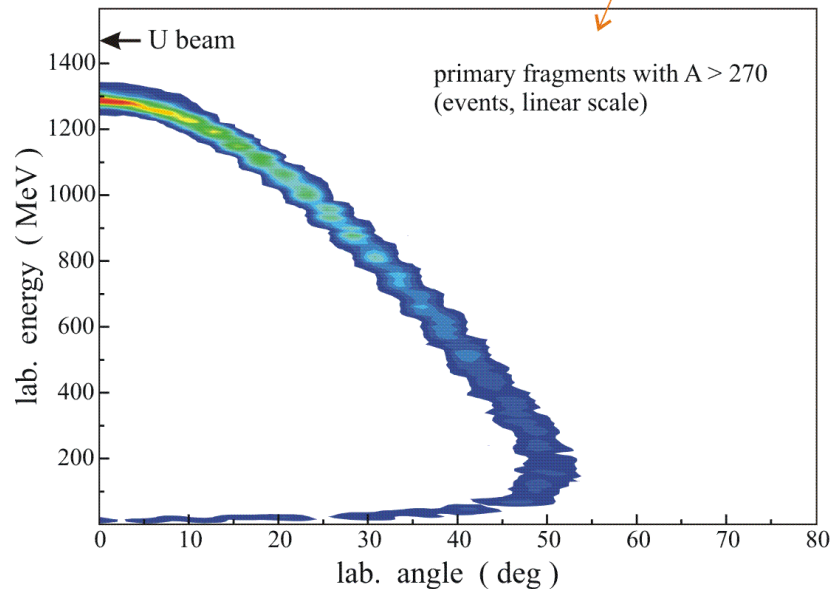
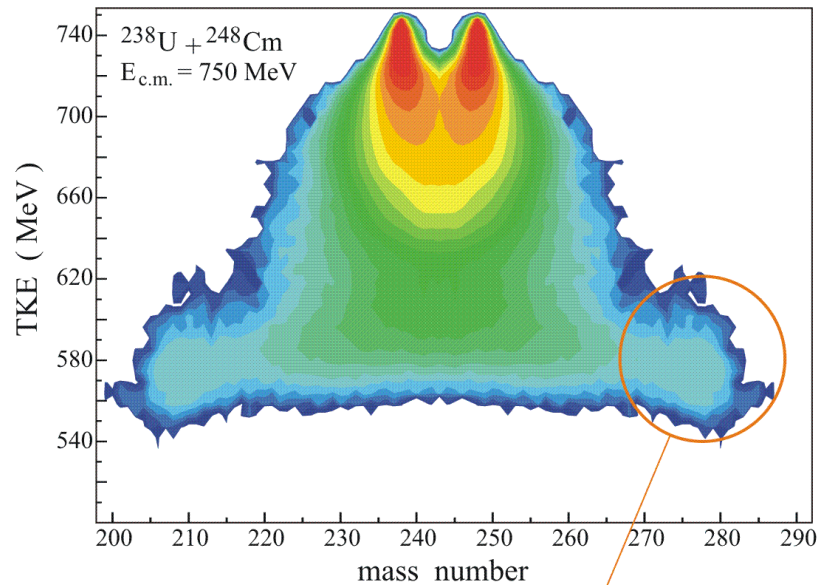


# How much is a role of the shell effects in damped collisions ?

Test reaction:  $^{160}\text{Gd} + ^{186}\text{W}$



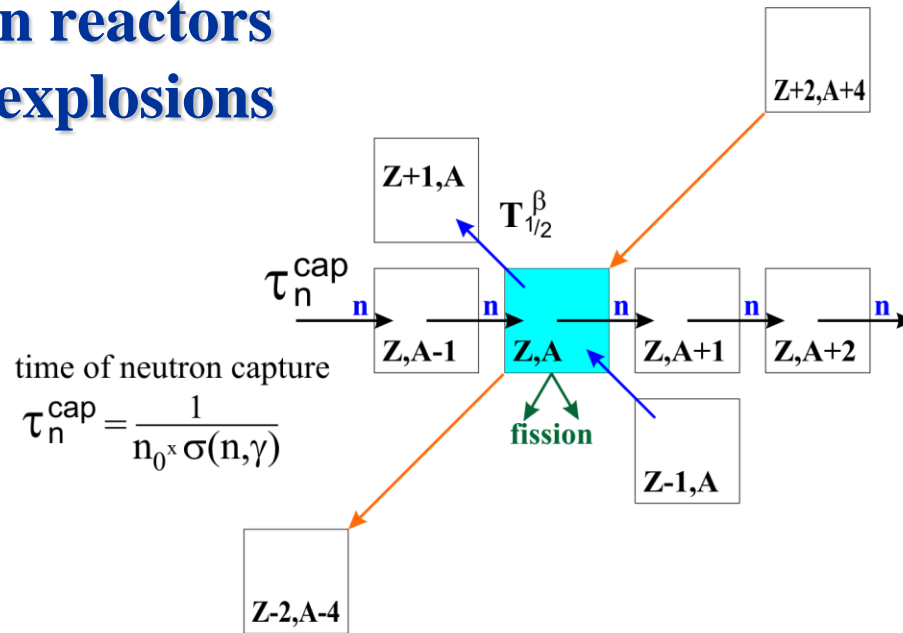
# Angular and energy distributions of transfer reaction products



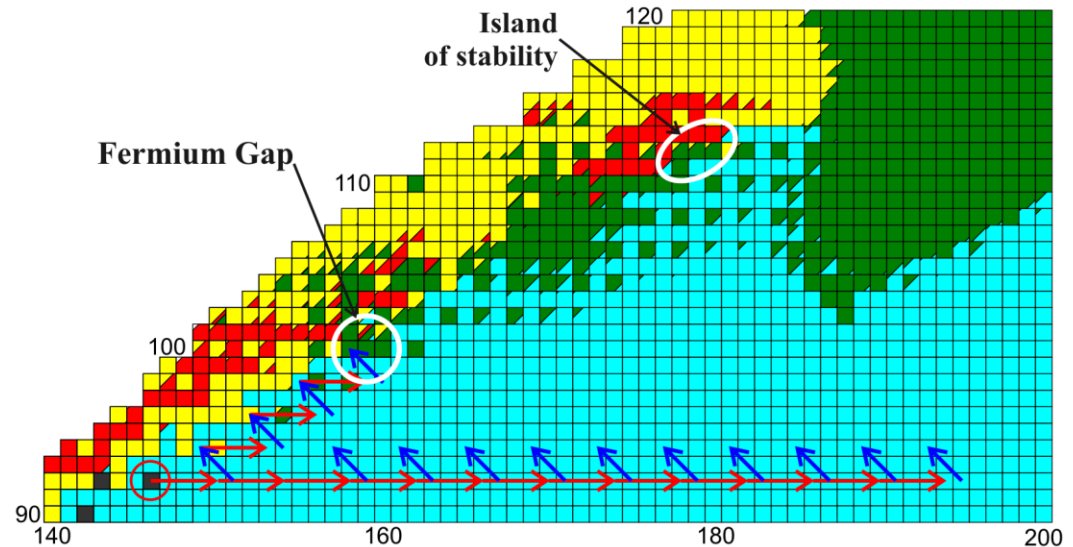
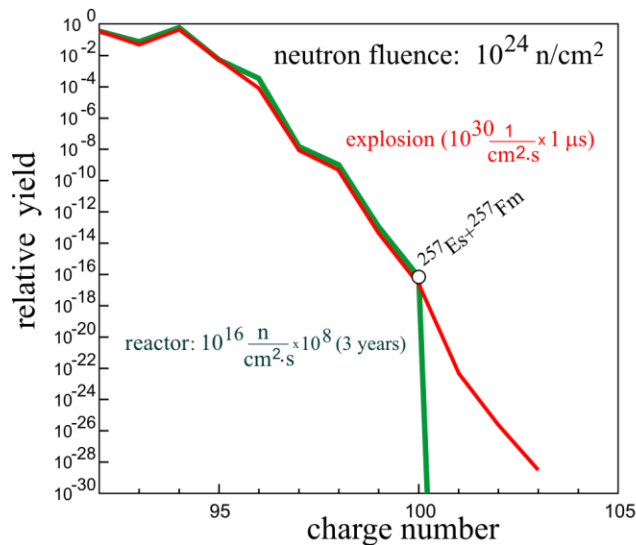
(1) No any “grazing” features

(2) Separators of new kind are needed

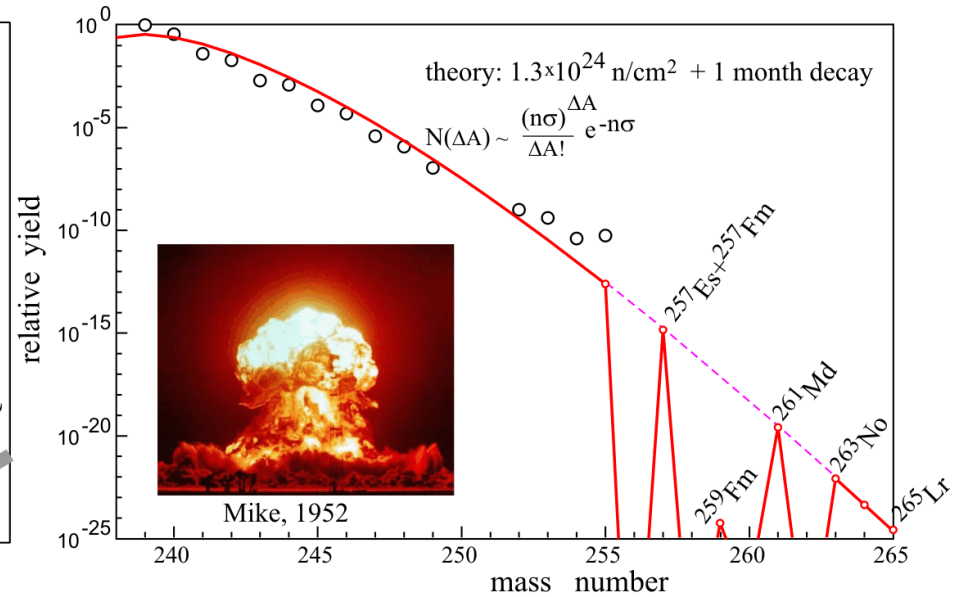
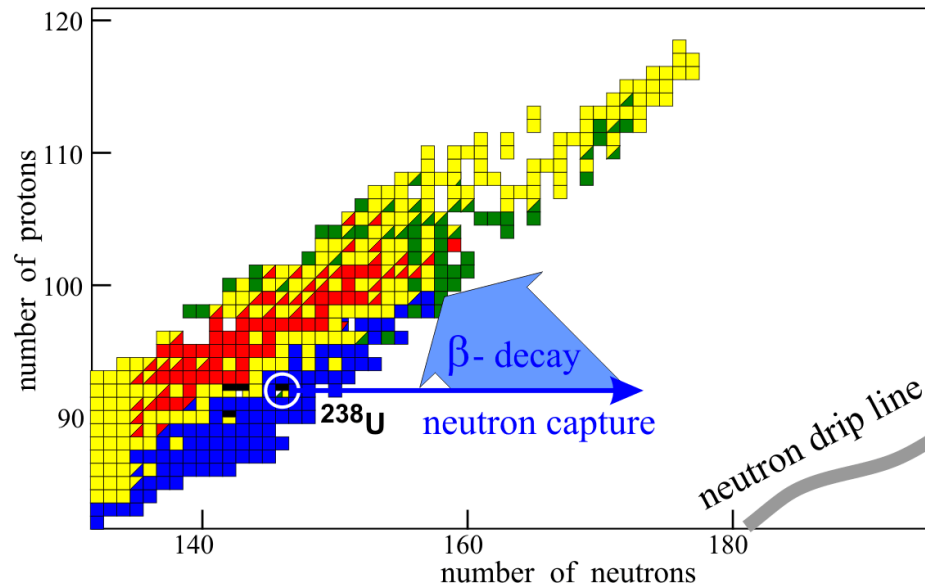
# Nucleogenesis in reactors and in nuclear explosions



$$\frac{dN_{ZA}}{dt} = N_{ZA-1} n_0 \sigma_{ZA-1}^{n\gamma} - N_{ZA} n_0 \sigma_{ZA}^{n\gamma} - N_{ZA} \frac{\ln 2}{T_{ZA}^{\beta}} - N_{ZA} \frac{\ln 2}{T_{ZA}^{\alpha}} - N_{ZA} \frac{\ln 2}{T_{ZA}^{\text{fis}}} + N_{Z-1A} \frac{\ln 2}{T_{Z-1A}^{\beta}} + N_{Z+2A+4} \frac{\ln 2}{T_{Z+2A+4}^{\alpha}}$$



# Rapid neutron capture in nuclear explosions



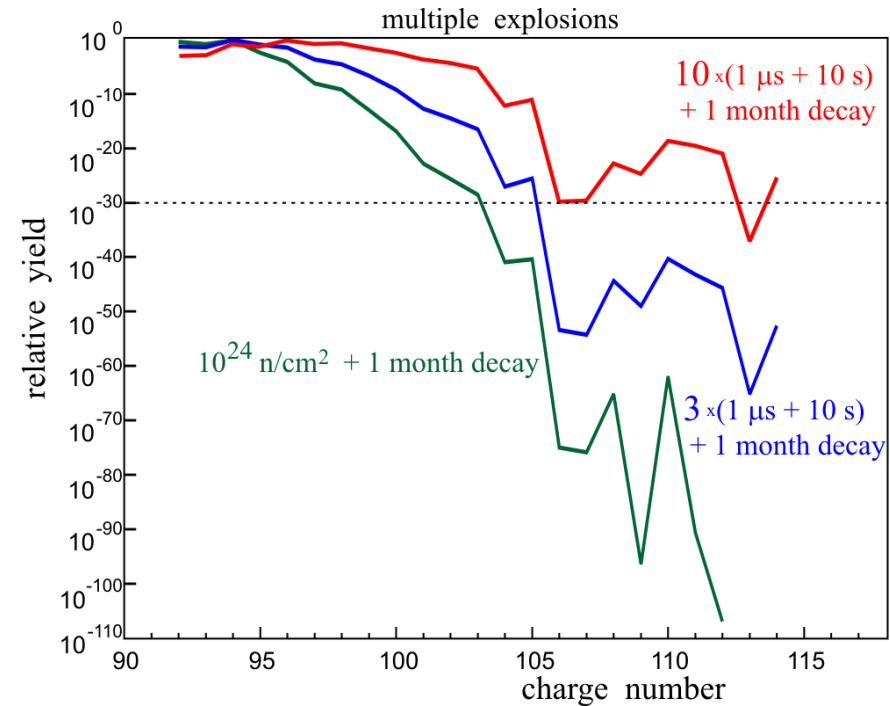
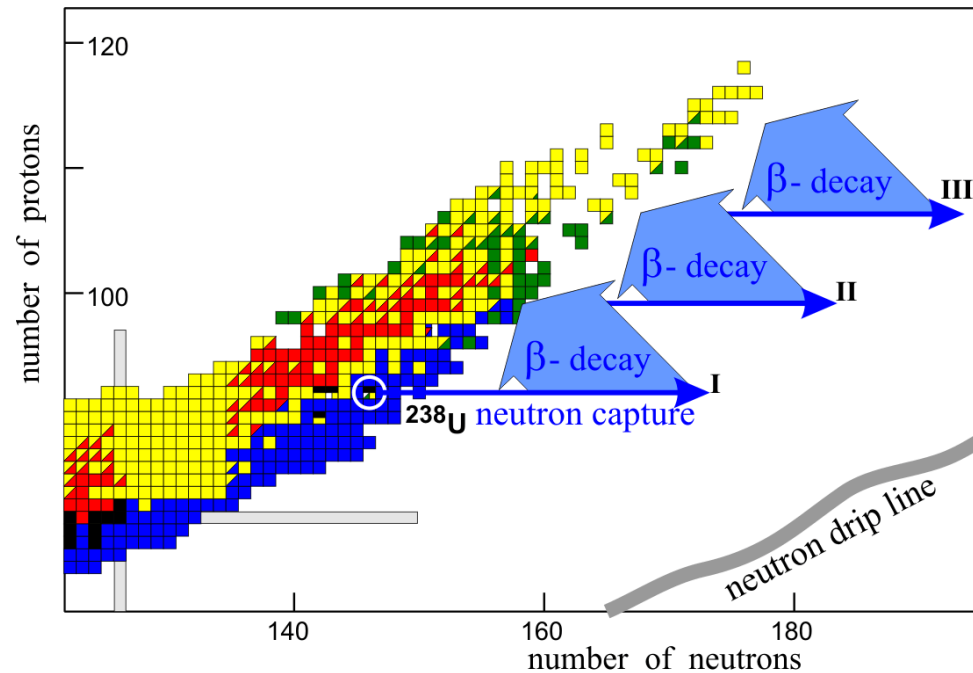
How much could be enhancement in the yield of superheavies in multiple (one by one) nuclear explosions ?

(the idea was already discussed by Edward Teller and his colleagues 40 years ago)



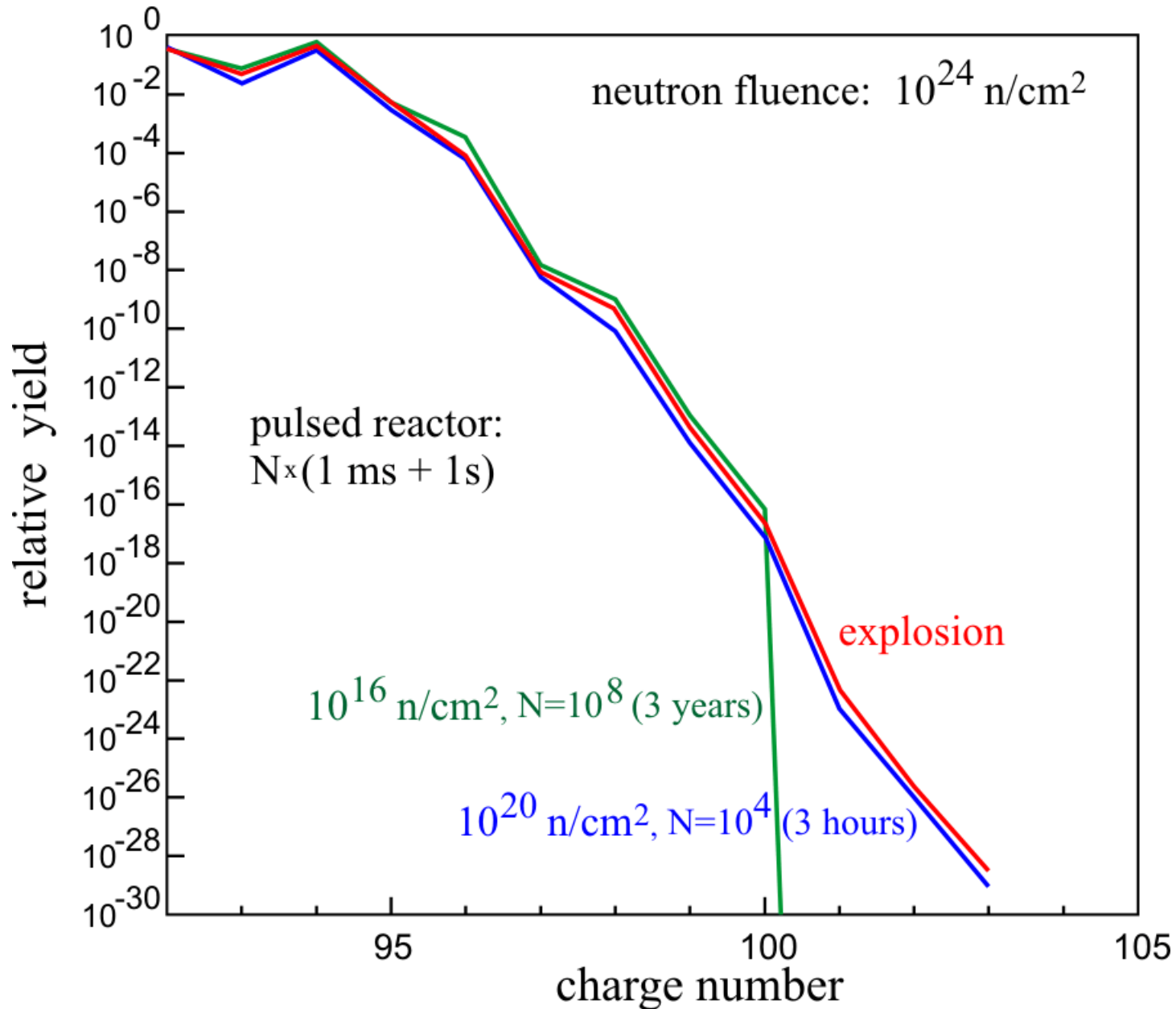
# Multiple nuclear explosions

(Edward Teller: Technically it is quite possible )

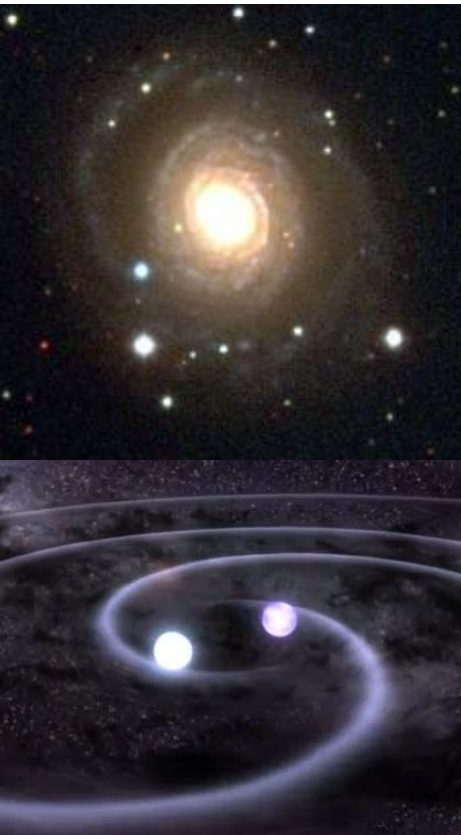


Probability for formation of element 112  
increases by **90 orders** of magnitude !

# Next generation of Pulsed Reactors: We need factor $10^3$ only !

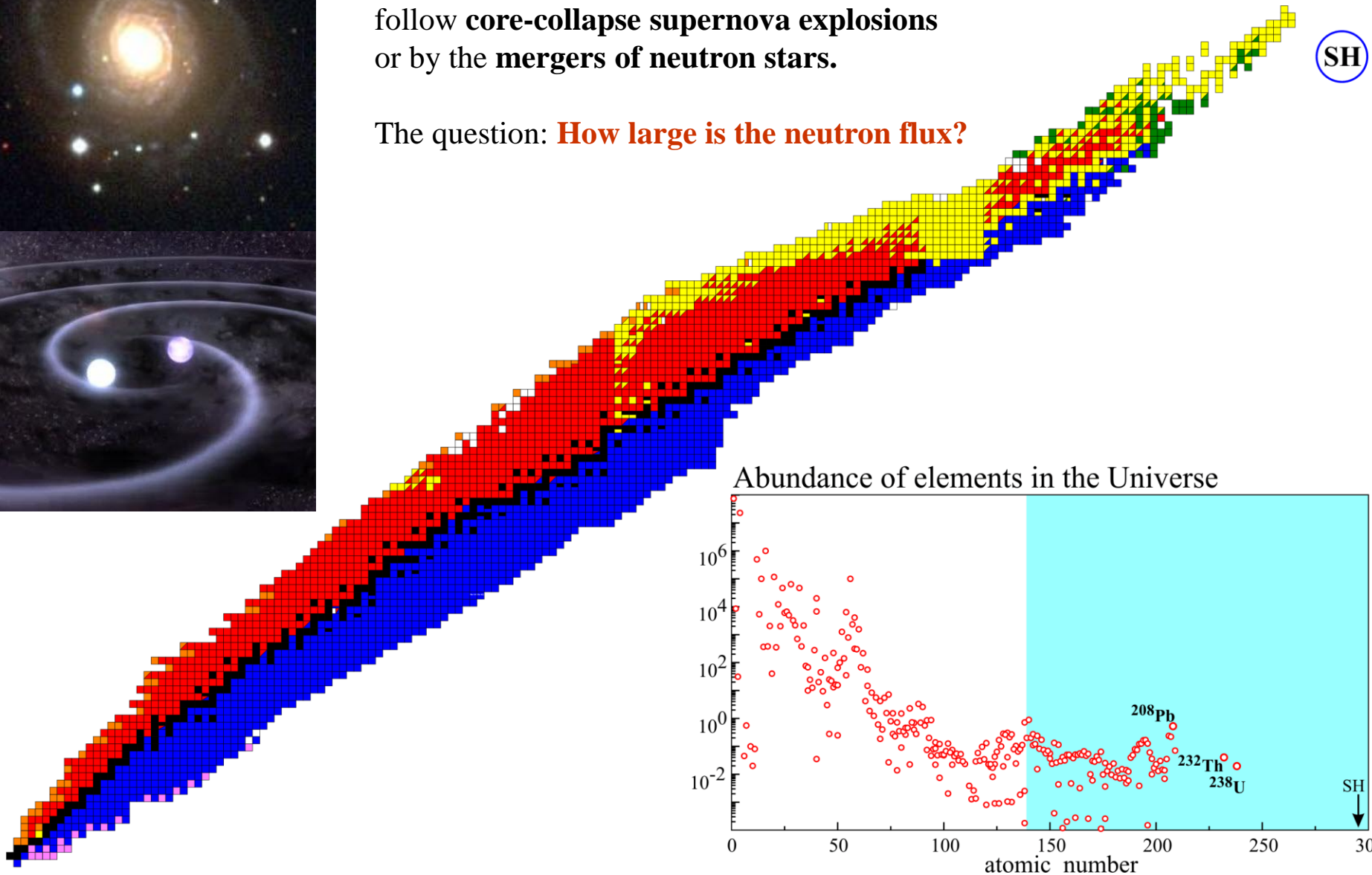


# Formation of SH elements in astrophysical r-process



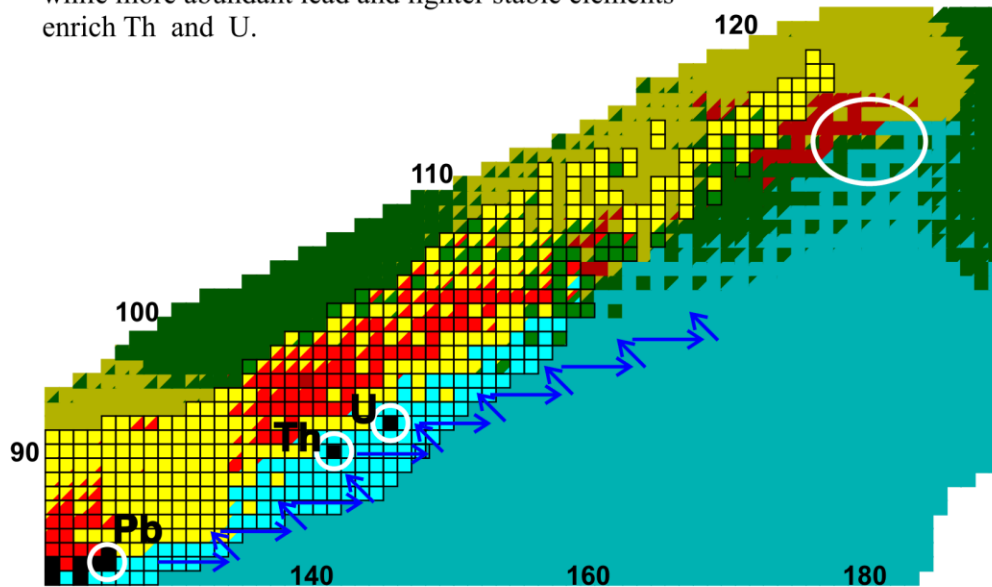
**Strong neutron fluxes** are expected to be generated by neutrino-driven proto-neutron star winds which follow **core-collapse supernova explosions** or by the **mergers of neutron stars**.

The question: **How large is the neutron flux?**



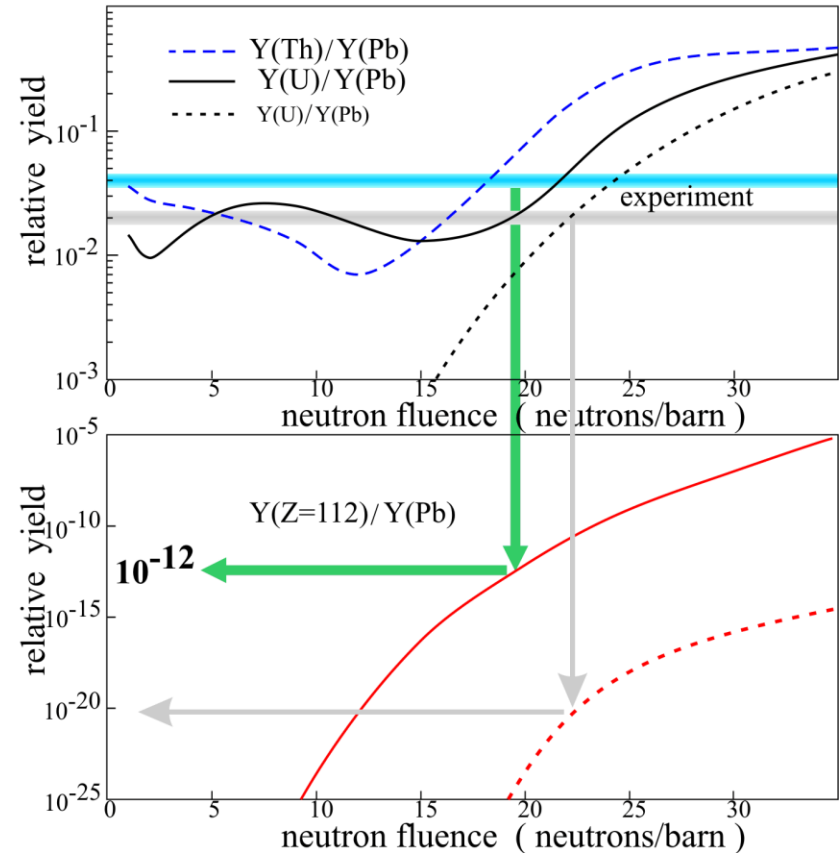
# Formation of SH elements in astrophysical r-process

During intensive neutron irradiation initial Th and U material are depleted transforming to heavier elements and going to fission, while more abundant lead and lighter stable elements enrich Th and U.



**Unknown total neutron fluence** is adjusted in such a way that the ratios Th/Pb and U/Pb keep its experimental values.

For a given neutron fluence one gets the relative yield of SH elements, SH/Pb.



# Summary

- Elements **119 and 120** may be synthesized in the Ti and/or Cr fusion reactions with cross sections of about 0.02 - 0.04 pb.  
Perhaps they are the last SH elements with  $T_{1/2} > 1 \mu\text{s}$  ?
- Multi-nucleon transfer reactions are to be used for synthesis of **neutron enriched long-living SH** nuclei close to beta-stability line.  
48Ca and 136Xe beams are insufficient. **Uranium-like beam is needed !**
- A macroscopic amount of the long-living SH nuclei located at the island of stability may be really produced in the **multiple** (rather “soft”) **nuclear explosions**. This goal could be also reached by the use of **pulsed nuclear reactors** of next generation (factor 1000 is needed).
- Production of long-living SH nuclei in the **astrophysical r-process** looks not so much pessimistic: relative yield of SH / Pb is about  $10^{-12}$ .



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